

# PRESS RELEASE



On: September 1 Crop Report

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For Information Contact:

Terry Mathews

1-800-256-4485

## Production of Louisiana Crops Expected to be Down in 2004

“This year has turned out to be disappointing for Louisiana farmers, after setting record yields in 2003,” Dave Frank, Director of the Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service, reported. Frank stated that the September 1 yield forecast is down for all major crops except corn. The only increases in Louisiana’s production of major crops from 2003 are rice and soybeans, and these increases are the result of increased acreage from 2003.

Louisiana **rice** production is forecast at 28.1 million cwt, down 8 percent from last month, but up 6 percent from 2003. Acreage of rice expected for harvest was revised to 530,000 acres, down 15,000 acres from the June 1 estimate. The expected yield per acre, at 5,300 pounds, is down 300 pounds from last month and 570 pounds from last year’s record yield. U.S. production is forecast at 222 million cwt, up fractionally from August and up 11 percent from 2003.

The Louisiana **sugarcane** crop is estimated at 12.4 million net tons, down 6 percent from last month and down 4 percent from last year. The acreage expected for harvest is down 10,000 acres, to 475,000 acres. This is responsible for the decrease in expected production. Yield is estimated at 26 net tons per acre, fractionally below last year’s yield. U.S. production of sugarcane for sugar and seed in 2004 is forecast at 31.7 million tons, 6 percent below last year.

Louisiana’s **cotton** production is expected to total 650,000 bales, unchanged from last month, but down 37 percent from 2003. Acreage expected for harvest is forecast at 490,000 acres. Yield per acre, at 637 pounds, is unchanged from the previous month, but down 330 pounds from last year’s record yield. Upland cotton production for the U.S. is forecast at 20.2 million bales, up 13 percent from 2003.

**Soybean** production is expected to total 29.5 million bushels in Louisiana, up 3 percent from the previous month and up 17 percent from a year ago. Yield is forecast at 31 bushels per acre, up 1 bushel from last month but down 3 bushels from last year. U.S. soybean production is forecast at 2.84 billion bushels, down 1 percent from the August forecast but 17 percent above 2003.

Louisiana’s **corn** production is forecast at 60.1 million bushels, up 8 percent from last month, but down 10 percent from a year ago. Yield per acre, at 135 bushels, is up 10 bushels from last month. If realized, this would be the second highest yield on record in the state. Louisiana’s record yield was set in 2001 when the state averaged 148 bushels per acre. U.S. corn production is forecast at 11.0 billion bushels, up fractionally from last month and 8 percent above 2003.

**Sorghum** production is estimated at 6.18 million bushels in the state, compared to 14.0 million bushels last year. Yield is forecast at 65 bushels per acre, down 20 bushels from last year. U.S. production for the 2004 crop is forecast at 472 million bushels, up 2 percent from last month and up 15 percent from 2003.

-30-

[Tables on back]

U.S.D.A. - Louisiana Agricultural Statistics Service

In cooperation with

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL CENTER

**CROP REPORT - LOUISIANA**  
**September 1, 2004**

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2003	2004	2003	2004		2003	2004
Corn for grain	500	<b>445</b>	134	<b>135</b>	bushels	67,000	<b>60,075</b>
Upland Cotton	510	<b>490</b>	967	<b>637</b>	lbs: bales	1,027	<b>650</b>
Rice	450	<b>530</b>	5,870	<b>5,300</b>	lbs: cwt	26,397	<b>28,090</b>
Sorghum for grain	165	<b>95</b>	85	<b>65</b>	bushels	14,025	<b>6,175</b>
Soybeans	740	<b>950</b>	34	<b>31</b>	bushels	25,160	<b>29,450</b>
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	490	<b>475</b>	26.2	<b>26.0</b>	net tons	12,838	<b>12,350</b>
Hay, all <sup>1</sup>	380	<b>360</b>	2.9	<b>2.3</b>	tons	1,102	<b>828</b>

**CROP REPORT - UNITED STATES**  
**September 1, 2004**

CROP	ACRES EXPECTED FOR HARVEST (000)		FORECAST YIELD PER ACRE		UNIT	FORECAST PRODUCTION (000)	
	2003	2004	2003	2004		2003	2004
Corn for grain	71,139	<b>73,377</b>	142.2	<b>149.4</b>	bushels	10,113,887	<b>10,960,710</b>
Upland Cotton	11,826	<b>12,970</b>	723	<b>747</b>	lbs: bales	17,822.9	<b>20,185.0</b>
Rice	2,997	<b>3,334</b>	6,645	<b>6,651</b>	lbs: cwt	199,157	<b>221,731</b>
Sorghum for grain	7,798	<b>6,916</b>	52.7	<b>68.3</b>	bushels	411,237	<b>442,269</b>
Soybeans	72,321	<b>73,655</b>	33.4	<b>38.5</b>	bushels	2,417,565	<b>2,835,989</b>
Sugarcane (sugar & seed)	994.4	<b>961.6</b>	34.0	<b>33.0</b>	net tons	33,857	<b>31,685</b>
Hay, all <sup>1</sup>	63,342	<b>61,589</b>	2.48	<b>2.63</b>	tons	157,114	<b>161,977</b>

<sup>1/</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from an earlier forecast.

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